

PARC PENGGRUG, LLANDEILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Pobl Group



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

REPORT NO. 2022-28
PROJECT NO. 128833

June 2022
Mehefin 2022

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By

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PARC PENGRUG, LLANDEILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Client

Pobl Group

Event Record No

128833

Report No

2022-28

Project Code

FS22-001

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| Rev Number | Description | Undertaken | Approved | Date |
|------------|-------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1 | Draft V1 | PP | MS | 24/06/22 |

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PARC PENGBUG, LLANDEILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment of a proposed residential development at Parc Pengrug, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire (SN 62800 22946).

A slight to moderate adverse impact upon a potential Roman Road has been identified, with a similar impact upon the potential for further Roman activity in the area. A low potential for subsequent archaeological activity is highlighted, with slight adverse impact from proposed development. A negligible to slight adverse impact upon the setting of Scheduled Monument CM367 is also discussed. Proposals to mitigate the impact upon the archaeological resource are also suggested.

CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archaeolegol YAD i baratoi Asesiad Desg Amgylchedd Hanesyddol o ddatblygiad preswyl arfaethedig ym Mharc Pengrug, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin (SN 62800 22946).

Mae effaith andwyol fach i gymedrol wedi'i nodi ar Ffordd Rufeinig bosibl, gydag effaith debyg ar y posibilrwydd o weithgarwch Rhufeinig pellach yn yr ardal. Amlygir potensial isel ar gyfer gweithgaredd archeolegol dilynol, gydag ychydig o effaith andwyol yn sgil datblygiad arfaethedig. Trafodir hefyd effaith andwyol ddibwys i fach ar leoliad Heneb Gofrestredig CM367. Awgrymir hefyd gynigion i liniaru'r effaith ar yr adnodd archeolegol.

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by the Pobl Group, to prepare an Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment on proposed residential development across three fields at Parc Pengrug, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire (SN 62800 22946).
- 1.1.2 The area currently comprises three fields of pasture and rough ground on the edge of an area of modern residential development on the northern side of the town of Llandeilo. The town itself is a site of significant historic and archaeological interest, with settlement from as early as the Roman period, along with Bronze Age and Iron Age activity known in the area. In a pre-application consultation (Planning Pre-Application Ref - PRE/00866) Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management, in their role as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority (Carmarthenshire County Council) recommended:
- that an archaeological desk-based assessment of the potential impacts of the development on the historic environment should be undertaken. The resulting report should be supplied prior to the determination of the planning application and be used to inform possible further mitigation.*
- 1.1.3 The proposed development is currently in its pre-planning stages and in order to inform their proposals the Pobl Group have requested that a desk-based assessment be carried out to determine the impact of the proposed work on the historic environment and what potential mitigation may be required.
- 1.1.4 This Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment provides an indication of the archaeological potential of the development area and highlights possible issues in relation to the impact of the development on the historic environment.
- 1.1.5 The assessment has been a primarily desk-based study of the site area, identifying any known archaeological or historical sites within the site and its environs, identifying potential setting impacts on designated archaeological assets in the vicinity, identifying any historic landscape areas that may be affected by the proposals and assessing the potential for hitherto unknown archaeological remains to be present within the development area.

1.2 Scope of the Project and Methodology

- 1.2.1 The scope of the assessment follows the Standard and Guidance For Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment as laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). The standard is stated by CIfA as:

Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of Conduct and other relevant regulations of CIfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and

decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.

1.2.2 A desk-based assessment is defined by CIfA as:

.....a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely historic assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of historic assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

1.2.3 The desk-based study of the area identifies known archaeological sites within the site and its environs, and assesses the potential for hitherto unknown remains to be present within the proposed development area. This will help inform future decision making, design solutions and potential mitigations strategies, including the potential for further archaeological works.

1.2.4 The report also includes a brief assessment of the impact on the settings of surrounding designated historic assets, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic landscape character areas and undesignated archaeological sites. This utilises the best practice guidance in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017).

1.2.5 The report presents relevant information from a number of sources including:

- Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record data;
- Map regression exercise using earlier cartographic sources;
- Available and relevant reports on any archaeological work undertaken in the area that affects the site or its setting;
- Archive records held at the County Archive, the National Library of Wales (NLW) and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW);
- Aerial photography, satellite imagery and Lidar data;
- Relevant records held by the developer;
- Identification of any Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Historic Landscapes, Historic Landscape Character Areas or Conservation Areas within or in the vicinity of the site area (Cadw, DAT, NRW);
- Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area;
- Assessment of the likely impact upon the settings of surrounding features of the historic environment; and
- Assessment of likely impacts on any identified remains within the development site (or potential remains) and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.

1.2.6 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been produced, and submitted to DAT-DM for comment, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority. An initial search area of 500m from the boundary of the development area was used to identify sites

recorded on the Historic Environment Record and other sources, and was extended to examine the potential impact on the setting of high status, designated, historic assets in the surrounding landscape.

- 1.2.7 For the purposes of planning policy in Wales, the historic environment is defined as:

All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed (Welsh Government 2017).

A historic asset is:

An identifiable component of the historic environment. It may consist or be a combination of an archaeological site, a historic building or area, historic park and garden or a parcel of historic landscape. Nationally important historic assets will normally be designated (ibid).

1.3 Abbreviations

- 1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Reference Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Reference Number (NPRN). Altitude is expressed to a height above Ordnance Datum (aOD). References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources will be given in brackets throughout the text, with full details listed in the sources section at the rear of the report.

1.4 Illustrations

- 1.4.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale. North is towards the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.

1.5 Timeline

- 1.5.1 The following timeline gives date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within this report.

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

| Period | Approximate date | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Palaeolithic – | c.450,000 – 10,000 BC | Prehistoric |
| Mesolithic – | c. 10,000 – 4400 BC | |
| Neolithic – | c.4400 – 2300 BC | |
| Bronze Age – | c.2300 – 700 BC | |
| Iron Age – | c.700 BC – AD 43 | |
| Roman (Romano-British) Period – | AD 43 – c. AD 410 | Historic |
| Post-Roman / early medieval Period – | c. AD 410 – AD 1086 | |
| Medieval Period – | 1086 – 1536 | |
| Post-Medieval Period ¹ – | 1536 – 1750 | |
| Industrial Period – | 1750 – 1899 | |
| Modern – | 20th century onwards | |

¹ The post-medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

2. POLICIES AND GUIDANCE

2.1 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act

2.1.1 The *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* was previously the primary legislation for protecting archaeological remains and scheduled monuments. This has more recently been amended by *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016* which has three main aims as defined by Cadw:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

2.1.2 The Act amends the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and also the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. It is supported by a number of planning guidance documents. The Act most specifically provides better safeguards for the protection of scheduled monuments, listed buildings and historic parks and gardens. It also includes further guidance on place names.

2.2 Planning Policy Wales

2.2.1 *Planning Policy Wales* (Ed.11, 2021) sets out the Welsh Government's land use planning policies. Its primary objective is to ensure that the planning system contributes towards the delivery of sustainable development and improves the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, as required by the *Planning (Wales) Act 2015*, the *Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015* and other key legislation.

2.2.2 Chapter 6, 'Distinctive and Natural Places', explains how planning systems must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. It also sets out the planning policies for the sustainable management of specific categories of historic environment assets.

2.3 Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment

2.3.1 This technical advice note provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building consent applications. It also provides specific guidance on how the following historic environment assets should be considered:

- scheduled monuments
- archaeological remains
- listed buildings
- conservation areas
- historic parks and gardens
- historic landscapes
- historic assets of special local interest
- World Heritage Sites

- 2.3.2 The technical advice note usefully gathers together the selection criteria employed in the designation of scheduled monuments and listed buildings and the registration of historic parks and gardens and historic landscapes.
- 2.3.3. Advice and decisions on planning applications affecting nationally significant historic environment features (or designated historic environment assets) is provided by Cadw acting on behalf of Welsh Government.
- 2.3.4 This report will also make reference to other guidance documents published by Cadw, namely: *Conservation Principles* (March 2011); *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales* (May 2017); *Managing Historic Character in Wales* (May 2017); and *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (May 2017).

2.4 Local Development Plan

- 2.4.1 The Historic Environment is subject to the relevant policies and procedures as laid out in the Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) *Local Development Plan* (LDP). A revised LDP is currently being prepared, which it is anticipated will be published for public consultation in December 2022/January 2023. Until the revised LDP is adopted, the 2006-2021 LDP remains in place.
- 2.4.2 The historic environment is referenced throughout the document in numerous policies, emphasising its significance to the county. The main policy references to the Historic Environment are outlined in the strategic policy SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment.

3 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1 The proposed development is located on the northern edge of the town of Llandeilo in eastern Carmarthenshire (NGR SN 62800 22946 – Figures 1-3).
- 3.2 The site comprises three fields of pasture bounded by hedgerows and mature trees. To the west, the site is bounded by the modern residential development of Parc Pengrug, and to the south by modern residential development on Dynevor Avenue. Fields lie to the east separating the site from commercial development alongside the A483, and fields also lie to the north, across which runs the A40. The land falls gradually to the north into a slight east – west valley along which the A40 and the Nant Gurrey ach run. The land continues to rise gradually to the south to south-west to a high point overlooking the Tywi Valley.
- 3.3 The historic core of Llandeilo is centred around St Teilo's church and commercial development alongside the A483 Rhosmaen Street 500m to 700m to the south. Llandeilo occupies a prominent position on the northern edge of the picturesque Tywi valley, overlooking an historic crossing point on the river. The valley runs roughly north-east to south-west. The A40 forms the main route along the northern side of the valley, the A483 linking to it and crossing the river to the south. Carmarthen Road/Street forms a triangle between these routes. A railway line also crosses the river and runs through the eastern edge of Llandeilo, linking mid-Wales to Carmarthen and the south.
- 3.4 The underlying geology comprises sandstone, limestone and argillaceous rocks of the Llandeilo Flags formation, with mudstones of the Hendre Shales and Mydrim Shales Formations on the falling ground to the north. The soils are described as 'slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils' (Landis 2022).

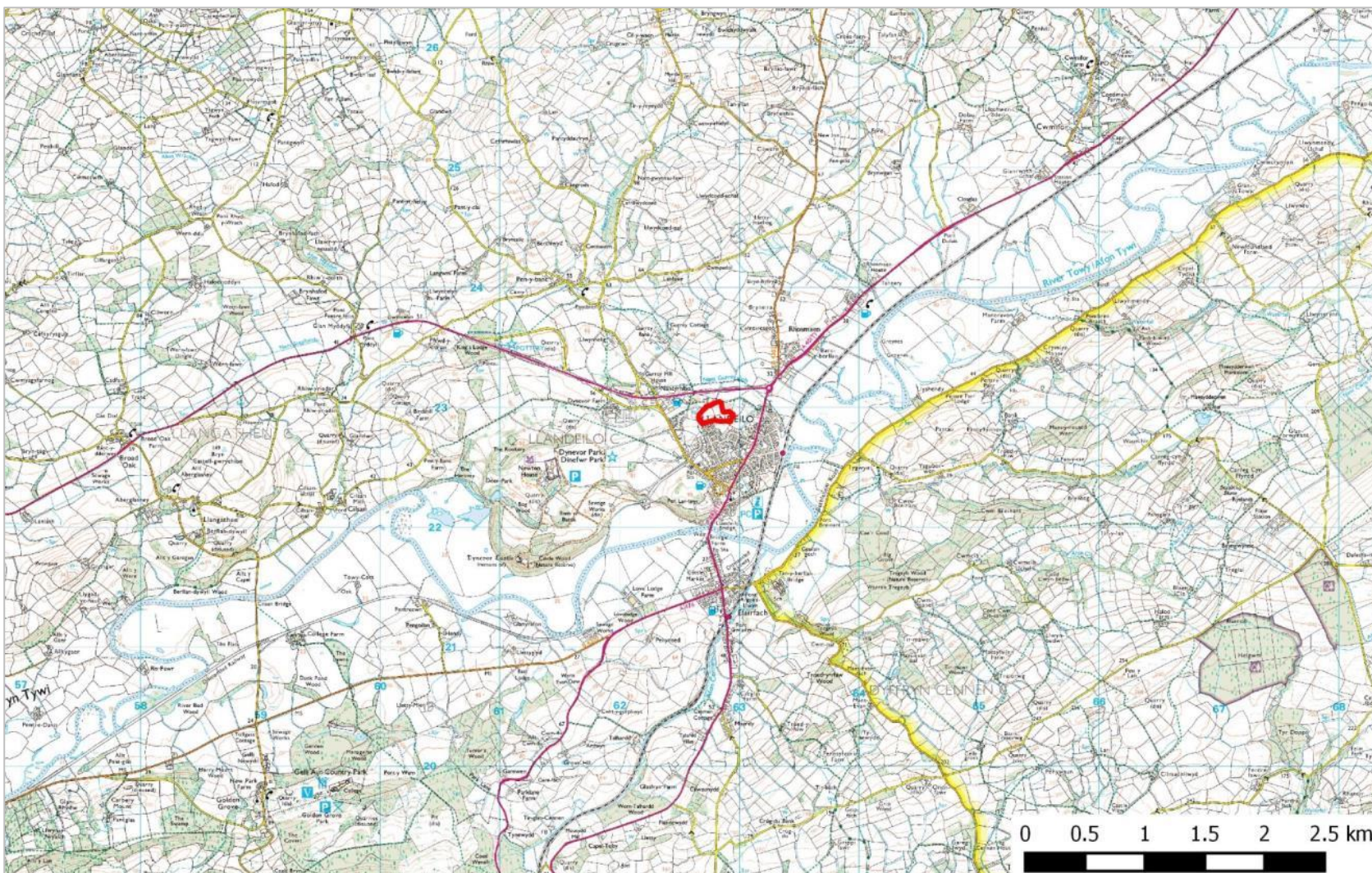


Figure 1: Location of development area, showing the proposed development site.

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd., Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

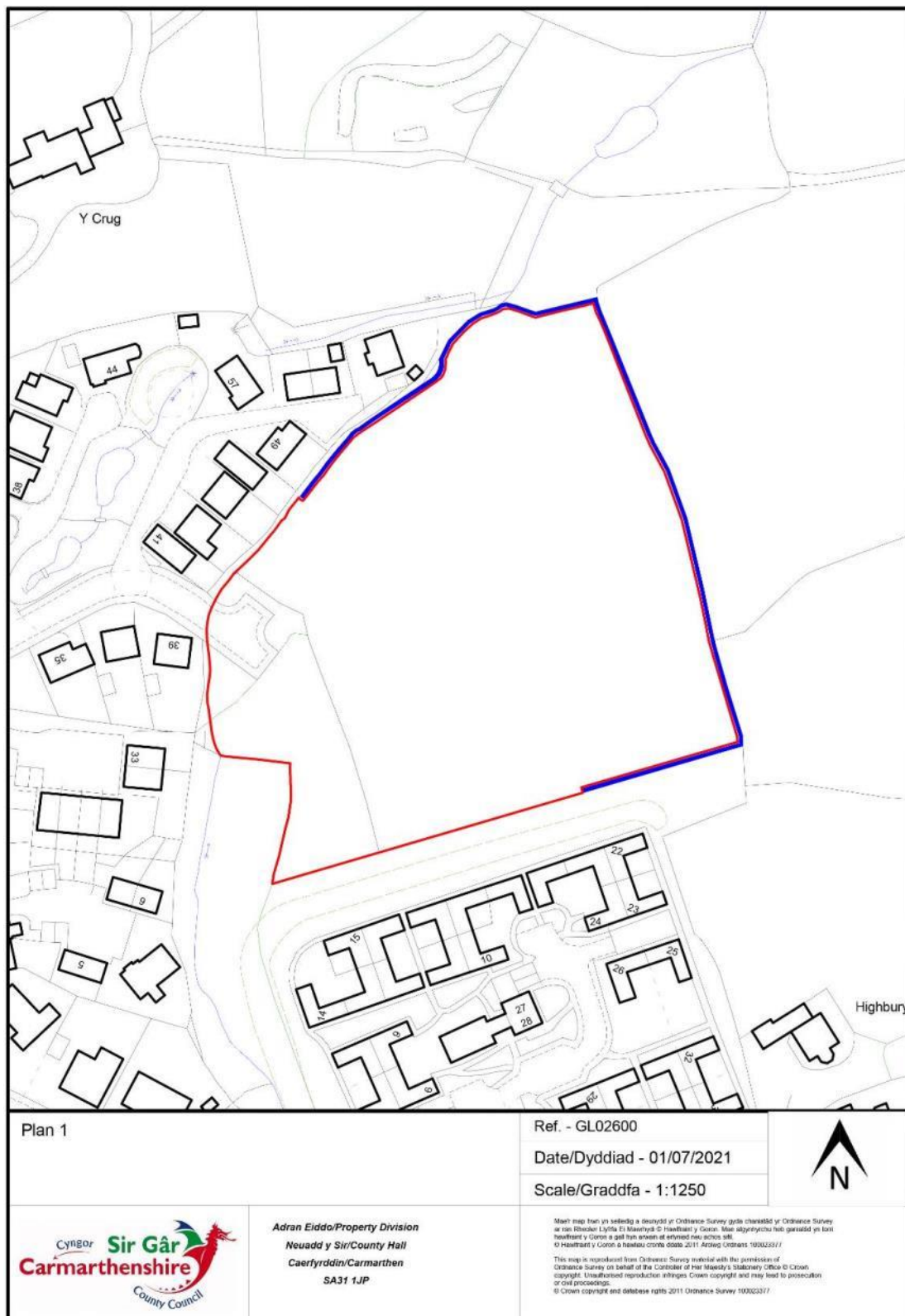


Figure 2: Detailed plan of the western part of the proposed development area. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to original scale.

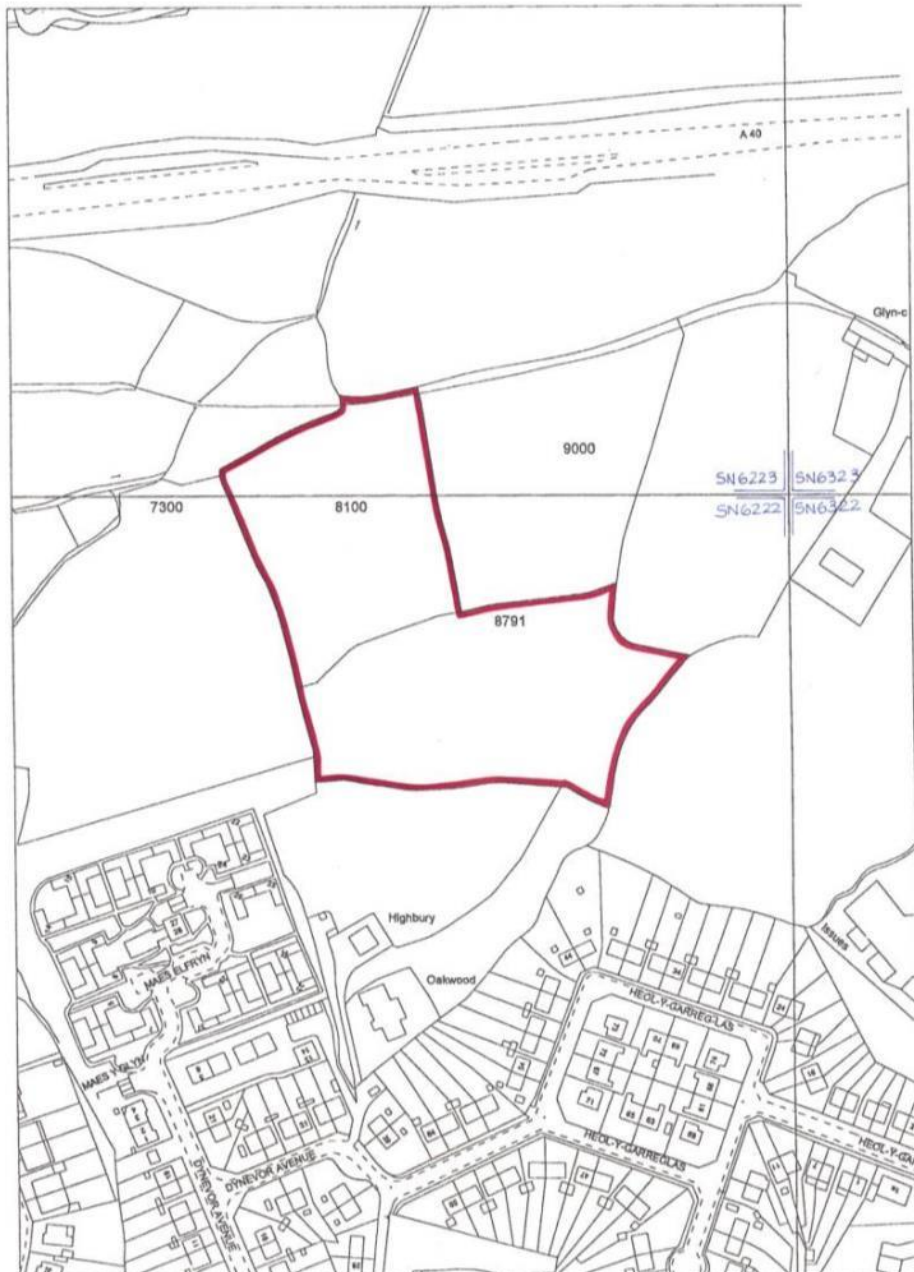


Figure 3: Detailed plan of the eastern part of the proposed development area. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to original scale.

4 DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 2 and Figure 4)

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 A search of data held on several databases was made of historic assets within the 500m radius search area. Designated assets beyond this search area were also considered for potential wider-ranging impacts, but ultimately it was considered that impacts would be limited to within the initial search area. These designated assets are described first, as they largely comprise assets with some form of statutory protection.

4.2 Scheduled Monuments

- 4.2.1 Scheduled Monuments are historic and archaeological sites considered to be of national importance. These sites are given legal protection, and consideration of the impact of development upon these sites and their settings are considerations of the planning process
- 4.2.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the proposed development area.
- 4.2.3 There is one Scheduled Monument (SM) within the 500m radius study area: **CM367 Llandeilo Roman Forts**. This site lies 260m to the south-west of the proposed development area. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 975. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises of two overlapping Roman forts, together with roads and a vicus at Dinefwr Park, Llandeilo. The location of the site was identified through geophysics and subsequent test excavations. The monument primarily survives as buried features, except for the location of the combined defensive circuit of the two forts on the W, N and E sides, which is marked by a significant break in slope. The primary Roman fort network was designed and constructed by the Roman army for the purpose of military conquest and rule. The forts at Dinefwr Park were part of a network of forts built to protect the major E-W route across south Wales using the Usk and Tywi valleys and date from the Flavian-Trajanic period of conquest and garrison (between AD 74 and AD 117). The earlier fort measures c. 250m SW-NE by c.180m transversely. The later fort measures c. 180m SW-NE by c.160m transversely. The vicus, a non-planned civilian settlement, consists of a linear string of buildings straddling the primary NE-SW oriented road and is located immediately to the northeast of the later garrison fort's NE entrance. It measures c. 100m SW-NE by c. 50m transversely.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of Roman military organisation. The monument forms an important element within the wider context of the Roman occupation of Wales and the structures have been demonstrated, through excavation, to contain well preserved archaeological evidence concerning chronology, layout and building techniques. Excavation has also demonstrated that stratigraphic and artefactual evidence, including organic remains, survive well.

- 4.2.4 Beyond the 500m search area Old Dynevor Castle CM029 lies 1.7km to the south-west, Ffairfach Standing Stone CM325 lies 1.3km to the south, and a Burnt Mound near Caeglas Farm CM286 lies 2km to the south-east. None of these sites are likely to be affected by the proposed development.

4.3 Listed Buildings

- 4.3.1 Listed Buildings are buildings and structures of national importance given legal protection by being placed on a 'List' of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Buildings on the List are given one of three grades which denote their level of importance (Grade I, II* & II), Grade I being the highest. A listed building may not be demolished, extended, or altered without special permission from the local planning authority.
- 4.3.2 There are no listed buildings within the proposed development area.
- 4.3.3 Within the 500m search area there are 28 listed buildings. These comprise a range of urban structures, including domestic properties, hotels, shops, offices, schools, local government buildings, banks, a library, public houses and chapels. These buildings are all focused on the central Llandeilo streets of Rhosmaen Street, Carmarthen Road/Street and New Road, to the south of the proposed development area, and all are Grade II listed, the closest lying 310m to the south (LB 11073).
- 4.3.4 Beyond this focus of activity in the centre of Llandeilo there are further clusters of Listed Buildings around Newton House 1.3km to the south-west, Dynevor Farm 800m to the west and Llwynhelig 900m to the north-west. These buildings are not considered to be affected by the proposed development.

4.4 Conservation Areas

- 4.4.1 Conservation Areas are designated to preserve and enhance the special character of areas of architectural or historic interest. The purpose of designating a Conservation Area is to provide the Planning Authority with an additional measure of control over an area that they consider to be of special historic and/or architectural value.
- 4.4.2 The **Llandeilo Conservation Area** encompasses the historic core of the town to the south of the proposed development area, and the extensive area of Dynevor Park to the west. The proposed development area does not lie within the Conservation Area, the boundaries of which lie 300m to the south and 250m to the west of the proposed development site.

4.5 Registered Historic Parks and Gardens

- 4.5.1 Parks and gardens of special historic interest in Wales are included on a Register of Historic Parks and Gardens, designed to provide comprehensive information to assist decision makers to help protect and preserve essential features of these parks and gardens, and enable their significance and character to be protected through the planning system.
- 4.5.2 There are no historic parks and gardens within the proposed development area.

- 4.5.3 Approximately 250m to the west lies the boundary to **Plas Dinefwr**, a Grade I listed parkland (PGW(Dy)12(CAM)). This park is registered as an outstandingly beautiful and picturesque 18th century landscaped park incorporating the remains of a medieval castle. The site also includes a small lake, two walled gardens and fine sweeping drives. Lancelot (Capability) Brown is known to have visited the site and to have admired it. The park is also associated with a number of Listed Buildings and the Scheduled remains of the Roman forts.
- 4.5.4 The rolling parkland is described as approximately oval in shape and occupies some 970 acres with the height varying from about 30m AOD to 60m AOD. On the south boundary is the steep bluff above the Towy flood plain on which the medieval castle stands as a conspicuous feature in the landscape. To the west, north and east, substantial walls, completed c.1774, de-limit the area of the park; housing has masked and destroyed some of this boundary to the east. The more picturesque landscape is to the west of the house, with the tree-covered, horse-shoe-shaped outcrops that make up the Rookery and the castle mound contrasting with areas of interspersed grassland. To the east the land has been moulded into gently rolling open land with the occasional clump of trees or individual specimens. There are fine deciduous trees within the park, some conifers to the south and more recent plantings in the centre of the park. There are notable clumps of beeches associated with Pen Lan-fach and form local landmarks. In the western half of the park is a small lake, used to rotate a turbine in the pumping house, the flow being controlled via sluices in the dam. The main approach is from the east, off the A40 road, from an entrance to the south of which is East Lodge. Other features within the park include an elaborate formal garden, walled kitchen and flower gardens, cottages, the ruins of a medieval church (potentially sited on a Roman temple), a stone dovecote, icehouse, silted ponds (Cadw Listed Parklands description).
- 4.5.5 The setting of the parkland describes it being "set in rolling countryside to the north-west of Llandeilo. Urban expansion has encroached on the east boundary of the park while road improvements have affected its north boundary". Significant views include "From the house there are wonderful views of, and towards, the medieval castle, and from the castle the house itself can be seen to best advantage. These views are framed by plantings, possibly the original intention. The old castle provides splendid views from many vantage points within the park. Additionally, the clumps of beeches at Pen Lan-fach are a landmark in the countryside, being particularly noticeable from the southern and eastern approaches, and also from many miles around, including from Taliaris mansion" (Cadw Listed Parklands description).

4.6 Registered Historic Landscapes

- 4.6.1 Registered Historic Landscapes are landscapes of historic interest included on the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales (Cadw 1998). The landscape boundaries and associated details have been created as non-statutory advice to assist decision makers and landscape managers to help ensure that the historic character of the landscape is sustained, and that where change is contemplated, it is well-informed.
- 4.6.2 The proposed development area lies within the **Tywi Valley Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (D) 5)**. This landscape is described as:

A long, narrow river valley of renowned scenic quality from its source in the south of the Cambrian Mountains to its estuary in Carmarthen Bay, containing ancient route corridors and the setting for an unrivalled group of planned landscapes. The area includes: Iron Age forts; Roman forts; medieval castles and mottes; post-medieval gentry houses, designed parks and gardens; highly cherished and celebrated historic artistic Picturesque landscapes.

- 4.6.3 In order to better characterise the historic environment of the Historic Landscape it has been sub-divided into a number of Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA). The proposed development area lies in one such area - **HLCA 191 Nantgaredig – Derwen Fawr**. This large area covers much ground on the northern side of the Tywi Valley, including a series of low rounded hills. The area is enclosed by medium-sized fields under pasture, divided by earth banks topped with hedges, with some woodland on steeper valley slopes. The settlement pattern is generally one of dispersed farmsteads, with some more recent nucleated settlements superimposed on this more traditional layout.
- 4.6.4 HLCA 191 forms a major historic route corridor into West Wales. The Roman Road runs through this area, between Carmarthen and Llandovery, largely following the interface between the alluvium and solid geology on the north side of the valley, a route now followed by the A40. During the medieval period the area lay within the commotes, and later hundreds, of Cetheiniog and Maenordeilo, under the Welsh lordship of Cantref Mawr, and post-1284 County of Carmarthen. A number of medieval castle, house, church and settlement sites are recorded in the area, along with some battle sites, but none near the proposed development area. Significant post-medieval sites include some large houses, parkland, turnpike roads and railways, but again none close to the proposed development. The recorded archaeology of such a large landscape area includes a range of sites from all periods. The majority of archaeological features relate to agricultural land-use but there are also two motte castles, of which Allt-y-ferin was added to an Iron Age inland promontory fort, Bronze Age standing stones and a henge monument at Nantgaredig. A few impressive 17th to 19th century buildings survive, such as the parish church of Llanegwad, Llethr Cadfan farmhouse and granary, Court Henry, and Llwynhelig House and stable-block. The area otherwise has a relative lack of distinctive buildings. Farmhouses are generally of 18th- and 19th-century date, stone built with slate roofs. Most are of two storeys and three bays, in the Georgian tradition, but larger examples are present. Associated with the larger farmhouses are large assemblages of farm buildings, these are often arranged in a semi-formal basis reflecting the higher status of the holdings. Farmhouses in the vernacular tradition are present, but in a lesser number than those in a polite style. Smaller farmhouses and those in the vernacular tradition tend to have a more limited and smaller collection of farm buildings, often compacted into a single range.
- 4.6.5 Since the Register of Historic Landscapes was created in 1998 there has been further development in Llandeilo, which has altered the boundary of HLCA 191 and the neighbouring HLCA of 202 Llandeilo, which is not reflected in the current maps.
- 4.6.6 **HLCA 202 Llandeilo** encompasses a largely urban area, which now borders the proposed development site to the south and west. The historic town sits on the north bank of the River Tywi, occupying a river terrace which slopes downhill from west to east between 40m and 80m.

The town is dominated by the church tower with the churchyard being a primary nucleus. Early 19th century colour-washed houses line Bridge Street from the graceful single span bridge across the river. The former marketplace northwest of the church is now occupied by infill, with some good quality 19th century buildings up Carmarthen Street beyond. The main Rhosmaen Street was described at the start of the 19th century as containing 'straw-thatched houses of the poorest description' (Soulsby 1983, 162) but now includes fine later 19th century civic buildings. 20th century developments have largely occurred to the west and north of the historic core Both Ffairfach to the south and Rhosmaen to the north are later 19th to 20th century ribbon developments.

- 4.6.7 Settlement here has its origins in the Roman period with Roman forts discovered in Dynevor Park. Further south the church of St Teilo is said to have been established in the 6th century, and was the site of an influential ecclesiastical establishment by the 9th century. The ecclesiastical community is believed to have formed the core of a small town, which is recorded throughout the medieval period. By 1306 it contained 30 burgesses and 11 other tenants (Soulsby 1983, 160), it was granted a weekly market and three annual fairs (Willis-Bund 1902, 263-9), held in the large marketplace northwest of the church. A mill was also present and at least one subordinate chapel lay within the character area, but the Medieval town appears to have been confined to the area around the churchyard, the marketplace, Bridge Street, and the lower part of Rhosmaen Street. Subsequent urban development was slow and probably did not occur until the 18th century. Recorded archaeology comprises features from the Medieval to Modern periods, but also includes some important Roman and Early-Medieval sites. The area includes a large number of listed buildings, mainly concentrated on the historic core of Llandeilo.

Table 2: Designated historic assets within the study area

| Site / Building Name | Cadw Ref. | NGR | Designation |
|--|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Llandeilo Roman Forts | CM367 | 26222 22251 | Scheduled Monument |
| Llandeilo | - | - | Conservation Area |
| Plas Dinefwr | PGW(Dy)1 2(CAM) | - | Grade I listed parkland |
| Tywi Valley Landscape Of Outstanding Historic Interest | HLW (D) 5 | - | Registered Historic Landscape |
| Bank Buildings | 11032 | 262930 222490 | Grade II Listed building |
| No.14 Bank Buildings | 11033 | 262928 222498 | Grade II Listed building |
| Former School House | 11045 | 262761 222402 | Grade II Listed building |
| Former National School | 11046 | 262746 222414 | Grade II Listed building |
| Gates & Gatepiers To Penlan Park | 11047 | 262721 222439 | Grade II Listed building |

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| | | | |
|--|-------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Former Provision Market (Premises Of Brockington & Scott LTD) | 11049 | 262761 222446 | Grade II Listed building |
| Briskin House | 11050 | 262806 222400 | Grade II Listed building |
| Cambrian House | 11051 | 262819 222387 | Grade II Listed building |
| Prospect House | 11070 | 263024 222547 | Grade II Listed building |
| Green Hall | 11071 | 262843 222497 | Grade II Listed building |
| The Salutation Inn | 11072 | 262795 222478 | Grade II Listed building |
| Salem Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Chapel | 11073 | 262917 222561 | Grade II Listed building |
| No.3 Railway Terrace | 11074 | 263067 222576 | Grade II Listed building |
| No.4 Railway Terrace | 11075 | 263069 222579 | Grade II Listed building |
| John Francis Chartered Auctioneers, Walter James & Son Estate And Insurance Agency | 11081 | 262939 222384 | Grade II Listed building |
| House To Rear Of 72 | 11082 | 262940 222378 | Grade II Listed building |
| No.70 Rhosmaen Street | 11083 | 262927 222389 | Grade II Listed building |
| Outhouse Opposite No.70 | 11084 | 262928 222398 | Grade II Listed building |
| (Former Horeb) Wesleyan Chapel | 11085 | 262917 222396 | Grade II Listed building |
| Snifters | 11086 | 262946 222402 | Grade II Listed building |
| No.66 Rhosmaen Street | 11087 | 262944 222396 | Grade II Listed building |
| Angel Hotel | 11088 | 262949 222408 | Grade II Listed building |
| Dewi Price & Co Solicitors | 11089 | 262954 222420 | Grade II Listed building |
| National Westminster Bank | 11090 | 262972 222454 | Grade II Listed building |
| The Castle Hotel | 11091 | 262970 222403 | Grade II Listed building |
| NO.115 Including Tunnel Passage & Rear Range To Right | 11092 | 262966 222395 | Grade II Listed building |
| Former Reading Room & Library | 11093 | 262980 222382 | Grade II Listed building |
| Dyfed County Council Social Services Department | 11094 | 262961 222380 | Grade II Listed building |
| Bank Buildings | 11032 | 262930 222490 | Grade II Listed building |
| No.14 Bank Buildings | 11033 | 262928 222498 | Grade II Listed building |
| Former School House | 11045 | 262761 222402 | Grade II Listed building |

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| | | | |
|---|-------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Former National School | 11046 | 262746 222414 | Grade II Listed building |
| Gates & Gatepiers To Penlan Park | 11047 | 262721 222439 | Grade II Listed building |
| Former Provision Market (Premises Of Brockington & Scott LTD) | 11049 | 262761 222446 | Grade II Listed building |
| Briskin House | 11050 | 262806 222400 | Grade II Listed building |
| Cambrian House | 11051 | 262819 222387 | Grade II Listed building |
| Prospect House | 11070 | 263024 222547 | Grade II Listed building |
| Green Hall | 11071 | 262843 222497 | Grade II Listed building |

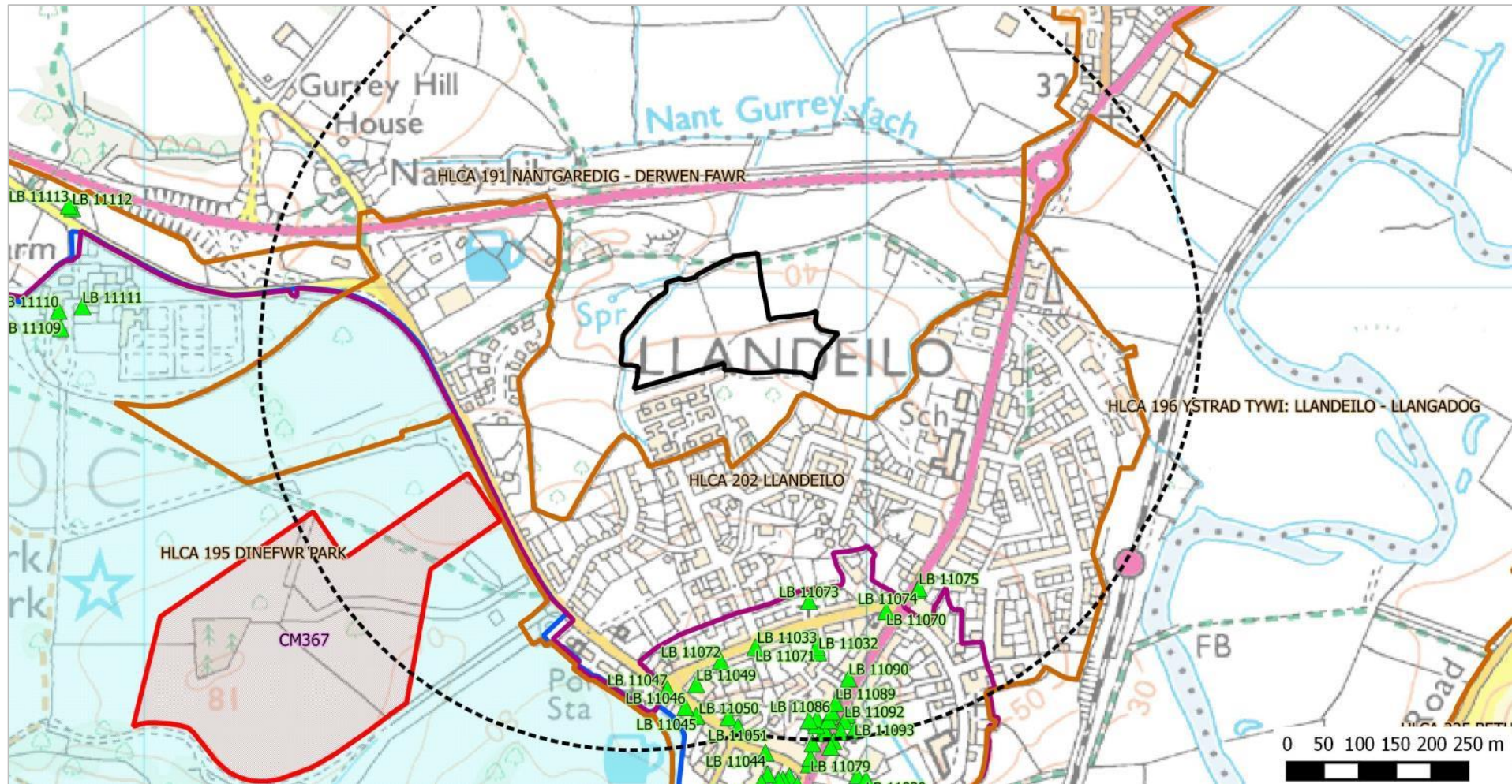


Figure 4: Map showing the proposed development site and the 500m radius study area (dotted line). Also showing designated assets including scheduled monuments (red outline), listed buildings (green triangles), conservation areas (purple line), registered parkland (blue area) and historic landscapes (brown line). Nb. The base map is outdated, and does not show recent urban development to the west of the site.

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5 NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 3 and Figure 5)

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) and other databases was made within the 500m search area around the proposed development. There is one previously recorded site within the proposed development area, the projected line of a Roman Road (PRN 11089).
- 5.1.2 The HER records 111 assets within the search area, the vast majority of which are concentrated on the historic core of Llandeilo to the south. A small number of assets are recorded on the NMR database, held and maintained by the RCAHMW, which includes two additional sites to those recorded on the HER.
- 5.1.3 The following information is laid out chronologically to provide a brief archaeological and historical background for the development area and its environs for each period, along with the relevant HER entries pertaining to that period.

5.2 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic & Neolithic

- 5.2.1 No sites dating from these periods are recorded within the 500m radius study area. Evidence of activity during the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods in the wider landscape also appears sparse, although some scattered Mesolithic flint tools were recovered from the floodplain to the south of Llandeilo (Hourihan, Long & Simpson 2015).
- 5.2.2 Archaeological investigations prior to construction of a new school on the floodplains to the south of Llandeilo uncovered evidence of an early Neolithic ring ditch, dated to 3710 – 3644 BC, with accompanying early Neolithic pottery (ibid. 2015, Meek 2013). Later Neolithic polished stone axes have also been recovered from the floodplain area, but the archaeological potential for these periods within the proposed development area remains low.

5.3 Bronze Age

- 5.3.1 There are no sites of a Bronze Age date within the search area. The aforementioned excavations to the south of Llandeilo also provided important evidence of activity into the Bronze Age period, although focused in the floodplain area (Meek 2013). Settlement and burial activity was uncovered on the river gravel terrace, dated to the early to middle Bronze Age. Further afield several possible Bronze Age standing stones are also recorded along the wide valley base (ibid. 2013), and a burial mound is recorded further up the valley to the east of Llandeilo.
- 5.3.2 These investigations and records indicate a significant amount of Bronze Age activity in the area, although at present it appears to be focused on the lower-lying ground along the base of the valley with little indication of activity in and around the proposed development area.

5.4 Iron Age

- 5.4.1 Activity during the Iron Age is similar to that of the Bronze Age, with the main evidence of activity coming from the archaeological investigations on

the flood plain to the south (Hourihan, Long & Simpson 2015). A series of ring ditches spanning the Iron Age period were uncovered, and are believed to represent burial sites, and one middle Iron Age roundhouse was uncovered. Together the evidence suggests a remarkable concentration of activity in this area, although perhaps not entirely continuous, throughout the prehistoric period. Again, however this appears to be focused on the wide flood plains at the base of the valley, and although impressive Iron Age hillforts occupy some of the prominent hills in the local area, there is currently little evidence of activity within and around the proposed development area.

5.5 Roman Period

- 5.5.1 Approximately 300m to the south-east lies the site of a Roman fort (PRN 47636). Archaeological investigations in this area (Hughes 2003) have identified an initial large fort, likely established during the Roman invasions of the Flavian dynasty shortly after 74AD. The fort was large enough to accommodate a substantial military unit, and was equipped with timber and earth defences, and internal timber structures. Environmental evidence indicated the occupants were collecting and using barley, spelt and oats, and even bringing in olive oil from Spain and wine from southern Gaul. The initial fort may have been short-lived however, being supplanted by a later, smaller fort in around 82AD (PRN 47637). The initial fort likely housed part of the invasion forces; the subsequent fort housed a garrison unit and was occupied for a longer period, into the mid-2nd century AD.
- 5.5.2 A number of roads were established to serve the fort (PRNs 47638 & 47639), and a small settlement, or vicus, appears to have been established alongside one of these roads to the north-east of the fort (PRN 47642). Further features have also been detected around the fort, including a bathhouse to the north-west and an enclosure (PRN 47644) to the north-east.
- 5.5.3 The vicus appears unlikely to extend beyond Carmarthen Street. However, the Roman road (PRN 47638) running to the north-east of the fort is likely to join up with the known Roman road (PRN 11089) extending further up the valley towards the Roman fort at Llandovery. The route of this road is lost between the edge of the investigated area within Dynevor Park, to the west of the proposed development area, and the area around the current junction of the A40 and A483 to the north-east, but a projected straight line between these known sections of road would run through the south-east corner of the proposed development area (see Figure 5). The presence of intense activity in the late 1st and early 2nd century AD in the locality also increases the potential for associated activity within the proposed development area.

5.6 Early medieval & Medieval Period

- 5.6.1 There are no early medieval sites recorded within the study area, however it is likely that there was an ecclesiastical presence in Llandeilo from an early period, focused on the current St Teilo's church grounds (PRN 912). Such a site is mentioned in a 6th century entry in the 'Book of Llandaff', Tradition states that it was founded by St Teilo, and may have been a monastic clas church, potentially built on the route of an earlier Roman road. By the 8th century it was the centre of a bishopric, and a site of some significance which may have been the centre of a 6000 acre estate occupying much of Cantref Mawr, a large area of land between the Tywi,

Teifi and Gwili rivers. The site housed the book of St Teilo and at least two carved crosses. It is possible the churchyard, particularly of such a notable site, formed the nucleus of an early medieval 'bond' settlement. It is unlikely that such a settlement extended as far as the proposed development area, but the proximity of the site raises the possibility that the proposed development area is located on land utilised in association with the settlement during this period.

- 5.6.2 The religious community declined during the 9th and 10th centuries. The church lost its episcopal status, potentially to somewhere like Talley Abbey, in the 11th century but remained an important parish church (PRN 888). In the 12th century a settlement grew up organically around the church, developing into a small town with annual fairs (PRN 50256) and a weekly market (PRN 10558) (Murphy 2021). It remained a small settlement throughout much of the medieval period. A similar settlement – Newton/Dinefwr – was also established to the west, on the site of what is now Newton House.
- 5.6.3 The small size of the medieval settlement at Llandeilo means it is unlikely to have spread into the proposed development area, but the proximity of the site suggests the land is likely to have been managed by the townsfolk as farmland. The site also lies close to Crug Manor (PRN 24988), which lies 100m to the north-east. This site is reputedly the home of the ancestors of Lord Dynevor, including Elidir Ddu of Crug, who went on crusade in the early 14th century. By the mid-17th century, the site had been acquired by the Bowen family, and by the 19th century was operating as a small farm.

5.7 Post-Medieval & Modern Period

- 5.7.1 The bulk of the sites recorded on the HER relate to the post-medieval and modern periods, and largely chart the expansion of the town during the late 18th and 19th centuries. In the early to mid-19th century both New Road and Crescent Road were constructed, a new river bridge was built to replace the previous, collapsed bridge, and the main road was driven through the centre of the large churchyard. The HER records on the southern periphery of the search area illustrate the focus of activity to the south of the proposed development area, and comprises a mix of domestic, commercial, financial, semi-industrial and municipal features.
- 5.7.2 A series of small mines is recorded to the north (PRNs 28214, 28215 & 99168), as well as a number of quarries (PRNs 28241, 50267 & 96761), indicating a semi-industrial landscape around the northern edge of the town that is no longer readily apparent. One such quarry (PRN 50267), a short distance to the north of the proposed development area, was apparently used as the town dump until the 1930s (PRN 50268). The arrival of the railway (PRN 99767) in the mid-19th century provided impetus for further expansion of the town to the north-east, and the redevelopment of some of these former industrial sites. General expansion towards the proposed development area is a more recent development of the later 20th and early 21st centuries.
- 5.7.3 The most recent records relate to a military presence in the town during the Second World War. The 70th Brigade Advanced Divisional Headquarters and Divisional units (PRN 50281) were set up in the town. In 1942 a unit of American soldiers was billeted at Dynevor Church Hall (PRN 50280), with a field kitchen and petrol dump established in a field now built over by Dynevor Avenue and an ammunition store at the end of Diana Road, all immediately south of the proposed development area. A camp for use by

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the Women's Land Army was built to the north-west in 1940 (PRN 50284), and was used to house the homeless after the war.

- 5.7.4 These records indicate a variety of activities in the immediate area during the 19th and 20th centuries, although the proposed development area itself does not feature as a site of particular activity during this period. It may have remained an agricultural area throughout, although clearly there is the potential for unrecorded activity of a semi-industrial, urban or even military nature to extend into the proposed development area.

Table 3: All sites recorded on the HER

| PRN | Site Name | Period | NGR |
|-------|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| 875 | Llandeilo Findspot | Roman | |
| 888 | St Teilo's Church | Medieval; Post-Medieval | SN6293022236 |
| 888 | Llandeilo Fawr Church | Post Medieval, Medieval | SN6293022236 |
| 912 | Llandeilo Fawr Monastery, Clas, Churchyard | Early Medieval | SN62932223 |
| 6917 | Rhosmaen Street; New Road - Dwelling | Post Medieval | SN63032255 |
| 6919 | Salutation Inn | Post Medieval | SN6279522478 |
| 6925 | Green Hall - Dwelling | Post Medieval | SN6284322497 |
| 8730 | Llandeilo Shire Hall | Post Medieval | SN62882237 |
| 8731 | Old School | Post Medieval | SN62752242 |
| 9038 | Old Brewery The; South Wales Brewery | Post Medieval | SN630225 |
| 9716 | Baptistery In Llandyfan Churchyard; Ffynnon Gwyddfaen Holy Well | Medieval | SN6290022400 |
| 10558 | Llandeilo Market | Medieval | SN628223 |
| 11089 | Towy Valley Road | Roman | SN6020 |
| 11815 | Crug Cropmark | Prehistoric | SN628233 |
| 18810 | Sunday School, Church | Post Medieval | SN63332321 |
| 18850 | Saw Mill | Modern | SN62402298 |
| 18852 | Ysgol Teilo Sant - School | Post Medieval | SN63122285 |
| 18853 | St Paul Wesleyan Methodist Church | Post Medieval | SN63182249 |
| 18854 | Salem Calvinistic Methodist Chapel | Post Medieval | SN62922256 |
| 22377 | Llandeilo Wesleyan Methodist Chapel | Post Medieval | SN62912238 |

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| | | | |
|-------|--|-------------------------|--------------|
| 24988 | Crug; Grug Mansion, Farmstead | Medieval; Post-Medieval | SN62572306 |
| 25222 | Dynevor Lodge | Post Medieval | SN62552253 |
| 25223 | East Lodge | Post Medieval | SN62552253 |
| 25962 | Carmarthen Street No.26;Briskin House - Dwelling | Post Medieval | SN62802240 |
| 26650 | School House | Post Medieval | SN627224 |
| 26651 | Penlan Park Gate | Modern | SN62722243 |
| 26654 | Provision Market | Post Medieval | SN6276222446 |
| 26709 | Bank Buildings Nos 13 And 14 - Dwelling | Post Medieval | SN62922248 |
| 27002 | Carmarthen Street No.22;Cambrian House - Shop | Post Medieval | SN62812238 |
| 27013 | Railway Terrace No's 3 And 4 - Shop | Modern | SN63062257 |
| 27017 | Rhosmaen Street No 72 - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6293922384 |
| 27018 | Rhosmaen Street No 72a - Dwelling | Post Medieval | SN6294022378 |
| 27019 | Rhosmaen Street No 70 - Dwelling | Post Medieval | SN6292722389 |
| 27020 | Rhosmaen Street - Outbuilding | Post Medieval | SN6292822398 |
| 27022 | Angel Hotel | Post Medieval | SN6294922408 |
| 27023 | Rhosmaen Street No.60;London House - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6295422420 |
| 27024 | National Westminster Bank (financial) | Post Medieval | SN6297222454 |
| 27025 | Castle Hotel | Post Medieval | SN6297022403 |
| 27026 | Rhosmaen Street No 115 - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6296622395 |
| 27027 | Rhosmaen Street Reading Room, Library, Chapel | Post Medieval | SN6298022382 |
| 27028 | Rhosmaen Street No 121 Local Government Office | Post Medieval | SN6296122380 |
| 28214 | Maes Mwyn; Blende Road Metal Mine | Post Medieval | SN632227 |
| 28215 | Llandeilo Metal Mine | Post Medieval | SN63262288 |
| 28241 | Quarry | Post Medieval | SN63032267 |
| 47636 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Fort | Roman | SN62182245 |
| 47637 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Fort | Roman | SN62172253 |
| 47638 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Road | Roman | SN62252260 |

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|-------|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| 47639 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Road | Roman | SN62342268 |
| 47642 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Vicus | Roman | SN62302260 |
| 47644 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Enclosure | Roman | SN62302258 |
| 47647 | Home Farm Dinefwr Park Findspot | Roman | SN623227 |
| 50254 | Charity School | Post Medieval | SN62752242 |
| 50256 | Llandeilo Fair | Medieval | SN628223 |
| 50257 | Provision Market Fire Station | Post Medieval, Modern | SN6276222446 |
| 50258 | Brockington And Scott - Foundry | Modern | SN6276222446 |
| 50264 | Ammanford Co-Operative Society - Shop | Modern | SN62872251 |
| 50265 | Llandeilo Public Air Raid Shelter | Modern | SN62962239 |
| 50266 | Jones And Llewellyn - Shop | Modern | SN62832250 |
| 50267 | Crug Quarry | Post Medieval | SN62702307 |
| 50268 | Crug Waste Disposal Site | Post Medieval, Modern | SN62702307 |
| 50269 | Sartor House - Shop | Modern | SN62832250 |
| 50270 | The Railway Tavern Stores - Shop | Modern | SN62832250 |
| 50271 | Pickling Factory | Modern | SN62832250 |
| 50272 | Gwili Farmers Co-Operative - Shop | Modern | SN62832250 |
| 50276 | Farmers Arms Inn | Post Medieval | SN63102263 |
| 50278 | Cae William Showground | Post Medieval, Modern | SN62262288 |
| 50279 | Cae William Sports Ground | Modern | SN62262288 |
| 50280 | Dynevor Church Hall | Post Medieval, Modern | SN62762262 |
| 50281 | Military Base | Modern | SN62762267 |
| 50284 | Llandeilo Land Army Camp | Modern | SN62412298 |
| 50287 | The Walk Gate - Toll Gate | Post Medieval | SN62442228 |
| 50288 | Rose And Crown Inn | Post Medieval | SN62952241 |
| 50289 | London House Gents Outfitters - Shop | Modern | SN62952241 |
| 50290 | Carmarthen Street Emergency Water Supply | Modern | SN62602243 |

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| | | | |
|-------|---|---------------|--------------|
| 50291 | Llandeilo Pleasure Fair | Modern | SN62672250 |
| 50292 | Llandeilo Horse Fair | Post Medieval | SN62842251 |
| 50293 | Llandeilo Cattle Fair | Post Medieval | SN62842251 |
| 50294 | Le Conquet Recreation Ground | Modern | SN62672250 |
| 50301 | Penlan Park | Modern | SN62552234 |
| 50302 | Llandeilo Electricity Generating Site | Modern | SN63262294 |
| 50570 | Auction Mart Livestock Market | Modern | SN63352280 |
| 50572 | Victoria Jubilee Civic Hall | Post Medieval | SN63142244 |
| 50573 | National School Historical Site | Modern | SN62752241 |
| 50576 | Tannery | Post Medieval | SN63222302 |
| 50577 | Saw Mill | Post Medieval | SN63312289 |
| 50578 | Park Mill - Woollen Mill | Post Medieval | SN62752247 |
| 50579 | Central Garage | Modern | SN63062255 |
| 50580 | Blacksmiths Workshop | Post Medieval | SN63092255 |
| 50581 | County Garage | Modern | SN63062256 |
| 50584 | Cynlais - House | Post Medieval | SN62812239 |
| 56718 | Gurrey Manor Parkland | Post Medieval | SN62542350 |
| 60772 | No.13 Bank Buildings - House | Post Medieval | SN6293022490 |
| 60773 | No.14 Bank Buildings - House | Post Medieval | SN6292822498 |
| 60778 | Former School House, Carmarthen Street - House | Post Medieval | SN6276122402 |
| 60779 | Former National School, Carmarthen Street - House | Post Medieval | SN6274622414 |
| 60780 | Gates And Gatepiers To Penlan Park, Carmarthen Street | Post Medieval | SN6272222438 |
| 60782 | Former Provision Market (Premises Of Brockington And Scott Ltd.)Carmarthen Street - Foundry | Post Medieval | SN6276122446 |
| 60783 | No.26 Carmarthen Street (Briskin House) - House | Post Medieval | SN6280622400 |
| 60784 | No.22 Carmarthen Street (Cambrian House) - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6281922387 |
| 60787 | Prospect House, New Road - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6302422547 |

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| | | | |
|--------|--|---------------|--------------|
| 60788 | Salem Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Chapel, New Road | Post Medieval | SN6291722561 |
| 60789 | No.3 Railway Terrace - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6306722576 |
| 60790 | No.4 Railway Terrace - Shop | Post Medieval | SN6306922579 |
| 60793 | (Former Horeb) Wesleyan Chapel, Rhosmaen Street | Post Medieval | SN6291722396 |
| 60794 | No.64 Rhosmaen Street (Snifters) - Retail Premises | Post Medieval | SN6294622402 |
| 60795 | No.66 Rhosmaen Street - Retail Premises | Post Medieval | SN6294422396 |
| 96761 | Quarry | Post Medieval | SN63272283 |
| 96800 | Gurrey-Fach Gate - Toll Gate | Post Medieval | SN63342327 |
| 99168 | Llandeilo Railway Station Metal Mine | Post Medieval | SN6332422637 |
| 99767 | Llandeilo Railway Station | Modern | SN63382262 |
| 106680 | Dinefwr Deer Park | Post Medieval | SN61062252 |
| 107969 | Toll Gate | Post Medieval | SN62442281 |

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6 ASSESSMENT OF EVIDENCE

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 Sections 4 and 5 have described the known archaeological resource for the area, recorded on the regional databases of historic assets. The following section examines some of the main sources of information that could expand the current understanding of the archaeological resource and highlight previously unrecorded historic assets.

6.2 Previous Archaeological Work

- 6.2.1 No intrusive archaeological investigations (excavations, evaluations or watching briefs) have previously been undertaken within the study area.
- 6.2.2 The development of a plot of land on Diana Road in 2003 was undertaken under archaeological watching brief conditions (Breen 2003). This site lies immediately adjacent to the current proposed development site, and also on the projected line of the Roman road. The site was initially stripped of topsoil, but no evidence of a road, or any other features or archaeological interest, were noted. The report also includes anecdotal suggestion that nothing of obvious archaeological interest was uncovered on development work on the plot immediately to the north.
- 6.2.3 Of relevance to the archaeological potential of this proposed development is a series of investigations undertaken within Dinefwr Park to the south-west. In 2003 Stratascan undertook an extensive geophysical survey, revealing the remains of two superimposed Roman forts, along with ancillary features such as roads and a possible vicus (Hughes 2003). This was followed up in 2005 by archaeological excavation (Hughes 2007), uncovering evidence of the fort defences, timber structures, road surfaces and other features. The activity was dated from the 70s AD to the mid-2nd century, with archaeological remains discovered at depths of around 0.3m, below the topsoil/ploughsoil. Only one potential segment of road was excavated. No road surface was revealed, the presence of bedrock immediately below the plough soil suggesting any road surface was likely to have been ploughed away, but the line of the road was defined by U-shaped drainage ditches to either side.
- 6.2.4 A number of more general archaeological surveys have been undertaken in the area. These include a variety of assessments of the Tywi Valley, looking at parks and gardens (Pyper & Poucher 2007), traditional farm buildings (Pyper 2007) and a variety of other features (Pyper 2011), but these are of little relevance to the proposed development area.

6.3 Historic Mapping

Ordnance Survey original surveyors map (T.Budgen) – Llanon 1813

- 6.3.1 These early 19th century Ordnance Survey maps provide some of the earliest informative mapped evidence of the area. At this point it is clear that the focus of settlement was around the junction of Rhosmaen Street and Carmarthen Street. The proposed development site appears to occupy enclosed agricultural land between the town and the farmstead of Crug.

Llandeilo Fawr Parish tithe map 1841 (Fig. 6)

- 6.3.2 The 1841 parish tithe map shows settlement expanding slightly, but still not much further than the newly created New Road. The proposed development area comprises irregular fields, the boundaries as they remain today. The accompanying tithe apportionment gives little extra detail. The fields were split between Griffith Bowen Jones of Crug Farm, who owned and farmed the two eastern fields (unnamed), and Joseph Gulstone, who owned the westernmost field (called 'Cae Cwm Isaf'), formerly located opposite the entrance to Dinefwr Park, which was farmed by William Harris of Mount Pleasant.
- 6.3.3 Potentially of interest is a relatively straight field boundary that emerges from behind Mount Pleasant, forming the south-eastern boundary to the proposed development area, and heading in the direction of the current roundabout of the A40/A483. The alignment of this field boundary roughly corresponds to the line of a Roman road emerging from the fort, as identified on the geophysical surveys (Hughes 2003), although the surveyed area stops some 90m short of the start of the field boundary. Similarly, the north-eastern end of the field boundary approximately aligns with the route of the Roman road from the modern roundabout towards the Roman fort in Llandovery.

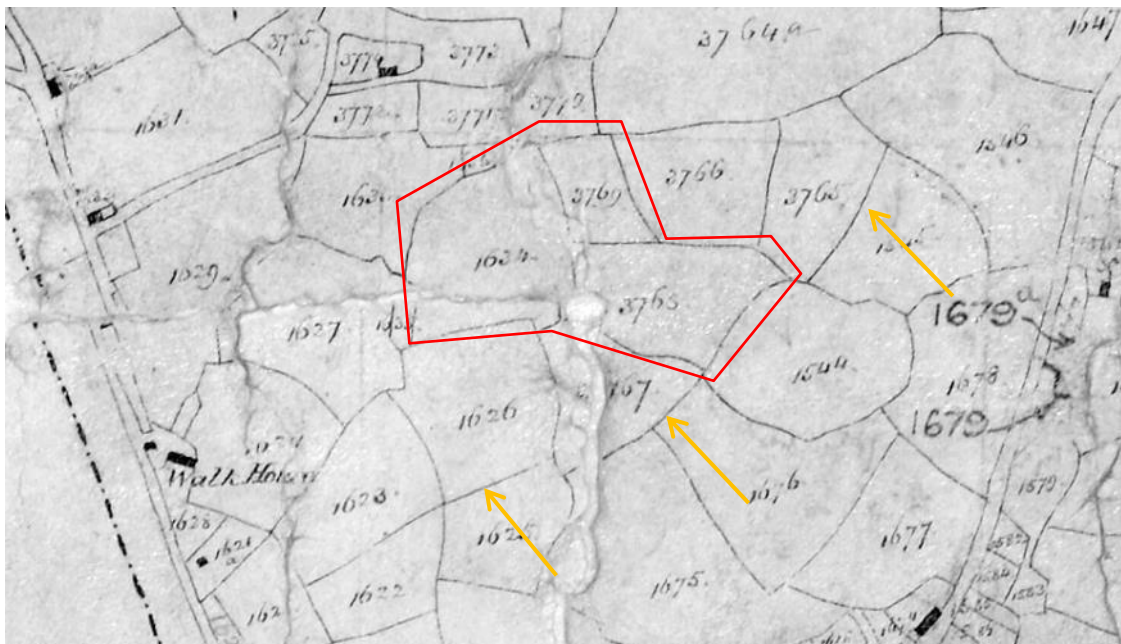


Figure 6: Extract of the 1841 parish tithe map. Approximate location of development site in red, and noted field boundary illustrated by arrows.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1886 (Fig 7).

- 6.3.4 The more detailed Ordnance Survey map of 1886 charts the gradual expansion of Llandeilo northward, with New Road now fully developed, and expansion creeping north of that with the development of Greenfield Place. Settlement was also expanding northward along Rhosmaen Street.
- 6.3.5 The proposed development site remains undeveloped fields. A stream defines the western edge of the site, a track between Crug Farm and Rhosmaen Street defines part of the northern edge of the site, with field

boundaries defining the remainder of the site. The linear field boundary visible on the tithe map is less obvious with this, more accurate, surveying, with the boundary becoming more curvilinear and irregular as it passes the proposed development area.

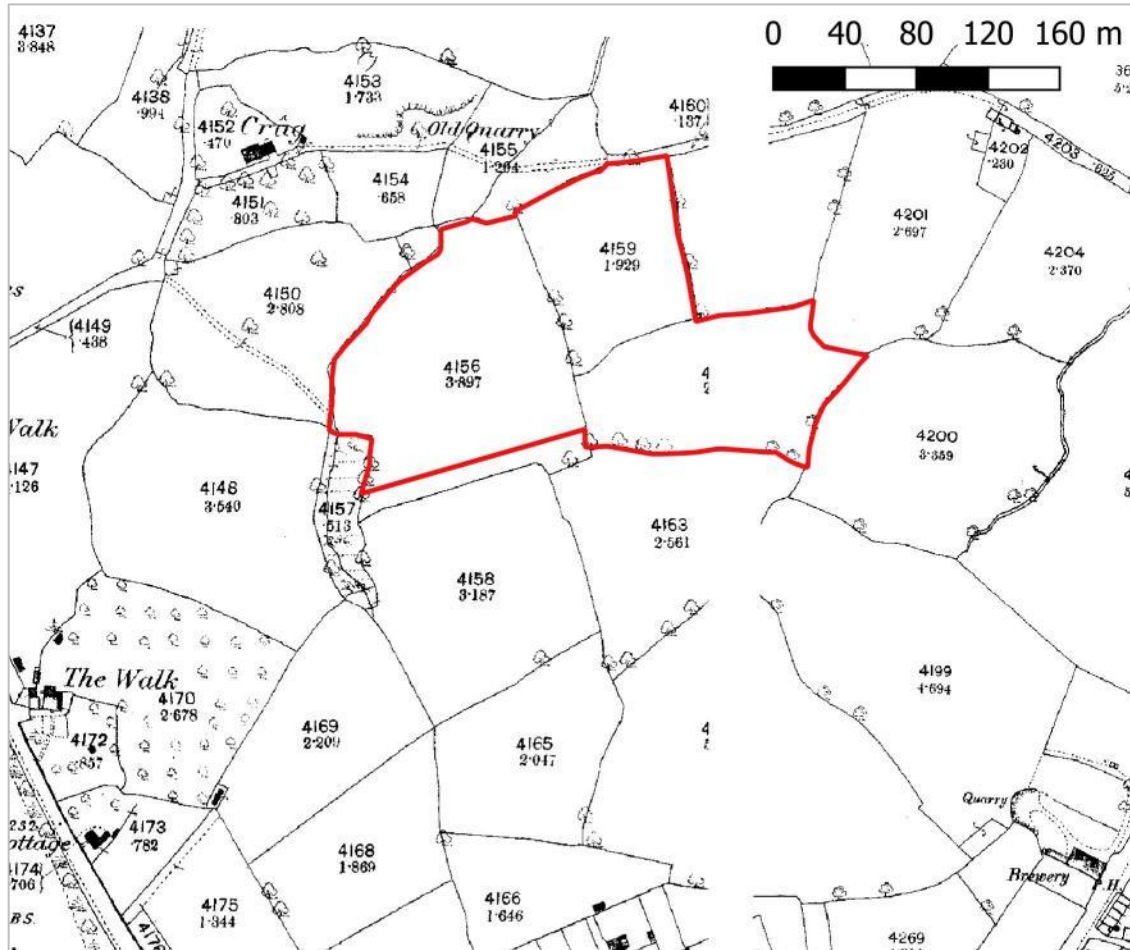


Figure 7: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1886. Site boundary shown in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1906.

6.3.6 No significant change is noted within the proposed development area. To the east Llandeilo continues to expand along Rhosmaen Street and around the train station.

6.4 Aerial & Historic Photography

- 6.4.1 A search was made of available historic aerial photographs and modern aerial photographs. A number of aerial photographs taken by the RAF between 1944 and 1946 show the area in some detail prior to and during surrounding development.
- 6.4.2 Images from 1944 (Photo 1) show fields of pasture, possibly improved, although the central field appears to be relatively rough ground. No features of interest are discernible within the bounds of the proposed development area. As suggested by the more accurate Ordnance Survey mapping the southern field boundary is relatively curvilinear, and lacks the straight edge that may typically be associated with a Roman road line. Of potential interest is a possible linear cropmark, that appears in multiple aerial photographs, running parallel to a field boundary to the south-west (see Photo 1). It is possible, given the context of the area, that this may represent the line of a Roman road connecting the Roman forts to the west, to the road-line to the north-east. Equally however, the proximity to the existing hedge line may suggest it is a ploughing or drainage feature associated with the field. Immediately to the south of the proposed development area Highbury House is visible, with a variety of small outbuildings of uncertain function scattered around the holding.
- 6.4.3 Subsequent photographs of 1945 and 1946 show no change within the proposed development area, although to the south Heol y Garreglas can be seen under construction.
- 6.4.4 No further features of interest are noted until recent satellite imagery of 2005 to 2006 (Google Earth), during the construction of adjacent Parc Pengrug. The northern part of the western field was being used to store and potentially dump material, and a new sewer line is cut along the northern edge of the field. From this point onwards the fields appear scrubbier in nature.



Photo 1: Aerial photograph taken by the RAF in 1944. Approximate site area shown in red, linear cropmark shown by green arrows.

6.5 LiDAR

- 6.5.1 LiDAR data at 1mDTM/DSM is available for the site area. No clear features of archaeological interest are noted, and the line of a potential Roman road is not visible.

6.6 Site Visit (Photos 2-10)

- 6.6.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 6th June 2021. The weather conditions were bright and dry with good visibility. Access to the entire site was possible, although high vegetation was present throughout the site, and areas of dense, inaccessible scrub had built up along some boundary areas.
- 6.6.2 The western field slopes down from the south to the north and comprises a field of unmanaged meadow lined by mature trees to the north and east, formed on former hedgebanks lined with drainage ditches (Photos 2 – 4). Areas of scrub have encroached along the western edge of the field and in the south-east corner. Modern development occupies the higher ground and top of the slope to the south, and modern access to the field lies on the west side. Manhole covers indicate a modern sewer line runs along the eastern field edge, as well as the sewer line along the northern edge suggested on recent satellite images.
- 6.6.3 The central and south-east fields are accessed via Highbury to the south, with no gateway between these and the western field (Photos 5 – 7). These fields are similarly unmanaged meadow, lined by mature trees formed on former hedgebanks, with areas of dense scrub developing in patches. The topography also slopes from the south to the north, beginning to level out slightly within the central field. Clumps of scrub in the central field suggest areas of ground disturbance, and a drainage ditch 1.5m wide has been cut from the northern boundary into the centre of the field, with upcast laid along the west side. These two fields are crossed by two sets of overhead lines.
- 6.6.4 No evidence of any features of archaeological interest were identified within the bounds of the proposed development area.
- 6.6.5 Of particular note, in considering the potential line of a Roman road, is the presence of a deeply incised stream valley immediately to the west of the proposed development area (Photos 8 & 9), along with the surrounding topography. Higher ground lies to the south of the proposed development area, which lies on sloping ground. The stream that defines the western edge of the site has formed a steep-sided valley between 20m to 30m wide, which also begins to form to the south of the proposed development area. The southern end of the valley is partly infilled, and the stream culverted, but this is likely to be a modern development, possibly associated with the modern residential development to the west and southeast of the valley. Such a topographical feature is likely to have proved a significant obstacle to any road line approaching from the west/south-west, with more accessible level ground along higher areas to the south, and towards the base of the valley further to the north.
- 6.6.6 In terms of viewpoints the site offers the most extensive views from the higher southern limits, across the falling ground northwards. No significant views were shared with identified surrounding designated assets (Photo 10).



Photo 2: View NW across the western field, showing the sloping ground and modern development alongside.



Photo 3: View E across the western field, showing the sloping ground and mature tree boundary to the adjacent fields.



Photo 4: View SE up the western field, showing the modern development lining the southern edge of the field.



Photo 5: View NW across the lower ground of the central field, showing the boundary with the western field.



Photo 6: View NNE from the south-east field, showing the views to the north.



Photo 7: View SE of the grown-out hedgebank separating the central and south-east fields.



Photo 8: View south up the stream valley to the west of the development area.
The upper edge of the valley is visible to the left.

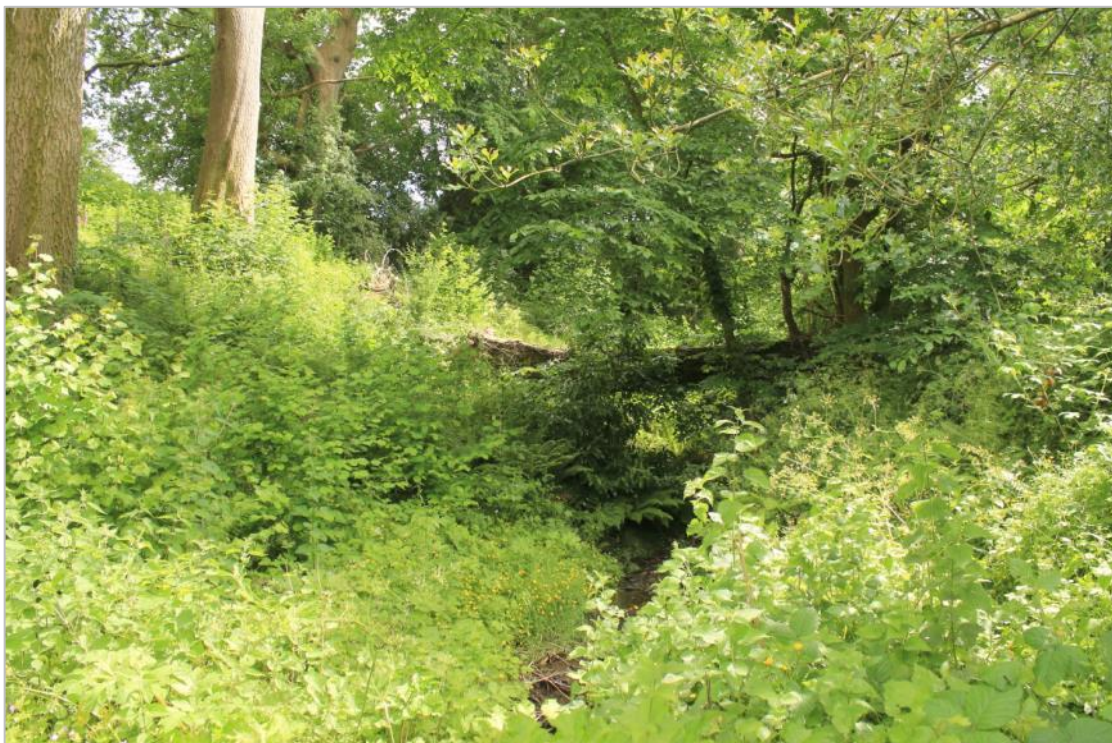


Photo 9: View south up the stream valley as it begins to open out close to the
current access to the western field.



Photo 10: View NE towards the proposed development area from within Scheduled Area CM367. The proposed development area is not visible.

7 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, IMPORTANCE AND SETTING

Table 4: Site potential definitions

| Archaeological Potential | Definition |
|---------------------------------|---|
| High | Known archaeological remains of the period within the site area, or an abundance of remains of the period within the near vicinity |
| Medium | A number of archaeological remains of the period are present in the vicinity or wider area, and/or the topography or location of the site would be typical for remains of that period |
| Low | Few sites of a specific period are known in the wider area, or where the topography of the site is unlikely to contain remains of that period. Or where no archaeological records of a certain period are present, but the location of the site is one that would be considered suitable or typical for remains of that period to exist |
| Negligible | Where there is no evidence for archaeological remains of a certain period to be present and the location/topography is most unlikely to contain remains of that period, or where a site area has already been totally disturbed |

Table 5: Site importance definitions

| Site Importance (SI) | Definition of Site Category |
|-----------------------------|---|
| High | Features of national importance - Scheduled Monuments, Listed buildings Grade I and II*, well preserved historic landscapes, registered parks and gardens and historic battlefields |
| Medium | Non-scheduled sites of regional or county importance. Listed Buildings Grade II, reasonably preserved historic landscapes |
| Medium / Low | Features of district or local importance but generally common features at a national or regional level |
| Low | Minor sites or sites so badly damaged that too little now remains to justify their inclusion in a higher grade |
| Uncertain | Features about which insufficient is known to attribute them to a higher rank, or which cannot be sufficiently accurately located to justify their consideration |
| Negligible | Where a site area has already been totally disturbed by previous development or natural processes |

7.1 Potential

- 7.1.1 One previously recorded archaeological site lies within the proposed development area. The line of a Roman road (PRN 11089) running between the Roman forts within Dinefwr Park to the west, and the Roman fort in Llandovery to the north-east. This section of the road line has not been proven, but is a projected line between two known points, one lying on the edge of Dinefwr Park to the west, and the other lying close to the junction of the A40 and the A483 to the north-east. The surrounding topography however would suggest that this road line is more likely to have taken a slightly more southerly route. A stream valley to the west would have provided a significant obstacle that would have required bridging, and the proposed development area lies on sloping ground which would have required additional engineering to cut into the slope, whereas a more southerly route for the road could have avoided the need for bridge and additional engineering works. This suggestion may be backed up by a possible cropmark visible on aerial photographs to the south-west (Photo 1). The route immediately to the south-east is less clear however, with the potential that the route could have run through the grounds of Highbury House to the south and continued along the south-east edge of the proposed development area. There is therefore a Low to Medium potential for this feature to lie along the south-eastern edge of the proposed development area. Sections of the known Roman road lie within the Scheduled area to the west, with well-preserved elements along the Tywi valley also Scheduled, therefore considered to be of high value. The road through this area is likely to be less well-preserved, but would still be considered of Medium archaeological importance.
- 7.1.2 The presence of significant Roman activity within 500m of the site, which includes both the Roman fort and associated civilian settlement, and the likely route of a Roman road close to the site increases the potential for associated Roman period activity within the proposed development area. The main features of a fort and settlement, such as building remains, a bathhouse, temple and other features, appear to have been identified further to the west, and the proposed development area occupies generally sloping ground which is likely to have attracted less development potential, but there remains a Low to Medium potential for general Roman archaeological activity, of unknown archaeological importance.
- 7.1.3 Llandeilo is a site of important early medieval and medieval settlement and ecclesiastical activity. This activity was however clearly focused further to the south, within and around the churchyard of St Teilo's. The proposed development site may have lain within the immediate agricultural hinterland of the settlement, and therefore there is a Low potential for early medieval and medieval archaeological remains in the area, of uncertain archaeological importance.
- 7.1.4 Throughout the post-medieval and modern periods the area appears to have remained agricultural land with little change in its layout. Some industrial activity, in the form of quarries and mining is recorded on the northern periphery of Llandeilo in the 18th and 19th centuries, and military camps were established nearby during the Second World War, but no positive evidence of such activity has been uncovered within the proposed development area, therefore potential for such activity is considered Low to Negligible, of likely Low archaeological importance.

7.2 Setting

- 7.2.1 *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017) offers guidance on defining and analysing the setting of designated heritage assets to allow the impact of development to be appropriately assessed. The setting of such assets includes “the surroundings in which it is understood, experienced and appreciated, embracing present and past relationships to the surrounding landscape. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve” (Cadw 2017). As such it often extends beyond the physical boundaries of the monument itself. This may include physical elements in its surroundings, such as boundaries and other monuments, relationships with other historic assets and natural features, or associated agricultural, industrial or other surroundings. Less tangible elements are also included, such as function, sensory perceptions, historical, artistic, literary and scenic associations.
- 7.2.2 Given the potential association with a Roman Road there is the possibility the area forms part of the setting of the Scheduled Roman forts within Dinefwr Park (CM367). This road may be a continuation of the road that emerges from the eastern side of the forts, along which the civilian settlement, or vicus, had formed indicating it was perhaps the main route used by the fort and the people associated with it. Remains of the road, and associated activity alongside it, would therefore form part of the original and contemporary setting of the forts. The extent of this setting is unknown however, as the line and survival of the road, and any associated activity, has not been proven, and may not exist within the proposed development area. There is otherwise no visual or other link between the proposed development area and Scheduled Monument CM367.
- 7.2.3 As an area of undeveloped agricultural land the area currently forms part of the extensive Historic Landscape Character Area of HLCA 191 Nantgaredig – Derwen Fawr. The area is typical of the enclosed pastoral landscape that is characteristic of this area, although represents only 0.1% of the 2802 hectares of the entire Landscape Area. It may also include remains of the Roman road which forms one of the distinctive archaeological elements of this Landscape Area.
- 7.2.4 Since the Historic Landscape Characterisation was undertaken in the late 1990s the urban limits of Llandeilo have expanded northward, with urban development now lying immediately to the west and south of the proposed development area. This development is more characteristic of the nearby Historic Landscape Character Area of HLCA 202 Llandeilo, specifically drawn around the urban limits of Llandeilo. The proposed development would fit within the characteristics of this area.

8 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Development details (Figure 8)

8.1.1 The design proposals are for a residential development spread across the three current fields, covering a total area of approximately 3.15 hectares. Current proposals indicate a total of 83 residential units, split between 2, 3 and 4 bed houses, and affordable flats. The main road access will be from the existing Parc Pengrug development to the west, with additional access provided into the grounds around Highbury house, although this area does not form part of the current proposals. Areas of open ground will be retained along the northern and southern edges of the site, and mature boundary trees will be retained where possible.

8.1.2 Generally, any of the following activities typically associated with a residential development on this scale could have a physical impact upon historic assets by potentially exposing, damaging or destroying archaeological remains:

- Landscaping and terracing works;
- Enabling works, such as the construction of access roads, parking and storage areas, associated services;
- Surface stripping and levelling;
- Construction of roads and infrastructure;
- Foundation excavations;
- Service installation;
- Any other ground disturbing works

It is anticipated that such a development on sloping ground would require relatively extensive ground clearance, levelling and terracing works, and therefore much of the proposed development area is likely to be exposed to potential ground-disturbing works.

8.1.3 Development in this area also has the potential to generate indirect impacts upon historic assets, by altering elements of the setting as discussed in section 7.2.

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Figure 8: Proposed layout of development elements.

8.2 Impact assessment criteria

- 8.2.1 The criteria for the assessment of impacts, both direct and indirect, on historic assets is based on The Department for Transport 'Transport Analysis Guidance' (TAG), Unit A3 'Environmental Impact Appraisal: Section 8 Impacts on the Historic Environment', of May 2019, with additional information based on professional judgement. In addition however, the guidance offered in the Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw 2017) has been utilised.
- 8.2.2 The TAG criteria divides the impacts into seven categories, ranging from Large Adverse (negative), Moderate Adverse (negative), Slight Adverse (negative), to Neutral, and then on to Slight Beneficial (positive), Moderate Beneficial (positive) and Large Beneficial (positive).

8.3 Physical impacts upon the historic assets

- 8.3.1 The potential for a Roman Road (PRN 11089) passing through the development area is described in Section 7.1.1. Although the route is projected through the area, it is considered more likely to have passed either to the south of the proposed development area, or along its south-eastern boundary. If it did run along this boundary there is the potential for it to be adversely impacted by groundworks associated with development. This is considered to be a **Slight to Moderate Adverse impact**. It should be noted however that any work that extends into the grounds around Highbury House has the potential to increase the impact upon the potential route of this road.
- 8.3.2 There is considered to be a low to medium potential for general Roman activity in the area given the presence of known Roman activity in the vicinity. Proposed development across this area is considered to also have a **Slight to Moderate Adverse impact** on such remains, should they exist.
- 8.3.3 There is considered to be a low potential for general early medieval and medieval remains, given the proximity of settlement in Llandeilo, and a low to negligible potential for post-medieval industrial activity and modern military activity. Given the likely levels of potential proposed development of this area is currently considered to be a **Slight Adverse impact** on any such remains.

8.4 Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Features

- 8.4.1 The definition of setting, how it contributes to the significance of a historic asset, and why it is important are outlined in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Welsh Government 2017a; available online) as follows:

The setting of a historic asset includes the surroundings in which it is understood, experienced and appreciated, embracing present and past relationships to the surrounding landscape. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive, negative or neutral contribution to the significance of an asset.

- 8.4.2 As illustrated in Section 7.2 there is the potential that this area may form part of the setting for the Scheduled Monument of CM367 (Roman forts within Dinefwr Park). This is dependent upon associated archaeological remains extending into the proposed development area, although as suggested in section 7.1.1 the main focus of associated activity (i.e., the

Roman Road) may run to the south of the development area. There are no visual links between the two sites, as illustrated in Photo 10. Generally therefore it is considered that there will be a **Negligible to Slight Adverse impact** on the setting, dependant upon the presence of archaeological remains within the development area.

- 8.4.3 The site lies within the Tywi Valley Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (D) 5). Residential development of the current agricultural land, and the removal of internal field boundaries, will impact upon two Historic Landscape Character Areas within that overall landscape (HLCA 191 Nantgaredig – Derwen Fawr and HLCA 202 Llandeilo), largely by taking the area out of HLCA 191 and putting it into HLCA 202. HLCA 191 is a large character area and although the fields are a typical characteristic element they would represent a loss of only 0.1% of the area. The site may also contain a characteristic archaeological element in the form of the Roman road, although as has been argued this may in fact lie further to the south and therefore the development itself may not remove a significant element of this road. HLCA 202 is an urban area, therefore the proposed development would see an expansion northward of this area. This expansion is surrounded by modern residential development to the west and south, and therefore will be in keeping with the surrounding character of this area. Generally therefore it is considered that there will be a **Negligible impact** upon the HLCAs, and the registered Historic Landscape as a whole.
- 8.4.4 Although a registered Parkland, Conservation Area and a large number of Listed Buildings lie within the 500m study area surrounding the proposed development site, the nature of the surrounding natural topography, vegetation and built environment means that no further impacts upon the settings of these assets have been identified.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Archaeological potential and impact assessment

- 9.1.1 One specific historic asset has been identified that may potentially be physically affected by the proposed development, namely Roman Road PRN 11089. It is however argued that a more likely route for this road would take it either to the south, or along the south-eastern boundary of the proposed development area. The road is considered to be a site of Medium archaeological importance, and there is a Low to Medium potential for the road to lie within the proposed development area. Development works could therefore have a Slight to Moderate adverse impact upon it. This impact could increase should works extend into the grounds around Highbury house.
- 9.1.2 The assessment has identified a Low to Medium potential for general Roman archaeological remains, a Low potential for general early medieval and medieval, and a Low to Negligible potential for post medieval industrial remains and modern military remains to exist within the proposed development area. The unknown nature of such remains means the archaeological value of them is currently unknown, although the post-medieval and modern remains are likely to be of low importance. Given these levels of potential, proposed development works are considered to have a Slight to Moderate Adverse impact upon the potential Roman archaeology, and a Slight Adverse impact upon the remaining potential archaeology.
- 9.1.3 A potential impact upon the setting of the Scheduled Monument CM367 (Roman forts within Dinefwr Park) has been identified, as associated Roman activity within the proposed development area would form part of the original and contemporary setting of CM367. A Scheduled Monument is of High archaeological importance, however the potential impact upon the setting is considered Negligible to Slight Adverse.
- 9.1.4 No other significant impact has been identified.

Table 6: Assessment of impacts

| Site Name | Ref. No. | Poten tial | Value | Site status | Physical impact | Setting impact |
|--|-----------|---------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Roman Road | PRN 11089 | Low to Medium | Medium | - | Slight to Moderate Adverse | - |
| Roman forts within Dinefwr Park | CM367 | - | High | Scheduled Monument | - | Negligible to Slight Adverse |
| Roman archaeological potential | - | Low to Medium | Unknown | - | Slight to Moderate Adverse | - |
| Early Medieval & Medieval archaeological potential | - | Low | Unknown | - | Slight Adverse | - |
| Post-medieval & Modern | - | Low | Low | - | Slight | - |

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| archaeological potential | | | | | Adverse | |
|--|----------|---|------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Historic Landscape Nantgaredig – Derwen Fawr | HLCA 191 | - | High | Registered Historic Landscape | Negligible | Negligible |
| Historic Landscape Llandeilo | HLCA 202 | - | High | Registered Historic Landscape | - | Negligible |

9.2 Mitigation

- 9.2.1 An archaeological potential has been identified within the proposed development area which may require further archaeological mitigation. Any recommendation for archaeological mitigation rests with the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority.
- 9.2.2 Significant Roman archaeological remains within Dinefwr Park to the west were initially identified through geophysical survey. Such a method may also prove useful in this location to identify potential archaeological remains. However, the present condition of the site would prevent any geophysical survey being carried out, and such a survey would only be possible subsequent to extensive vegetation and scrub clearance, which may not be a feasible approach on cost and ecological grounds prior to the likely development of the land.
- 9.2.3 An archaeological watching brief during ground-disturbing works associated with the proposed development should assist in identifying and recording archaeological remains should they be present. Development plans would need to accommodate, particularly in terms of time and resources, the potential requirement for further archaeological works should significant remains come to light during the archaeological watching brief.
- 9.2.4 Although not within the boundaries of the current proposed development site, it should be noted that there is an increased potential for the line of the Roman Road to pass through the grounds of Highbury House to the south, and therefore any associated development works within that area may require further archaeological investigations prior to ground-disturbing works.

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